

inner area suffused with red-brown, sparsely irrorated with dark brown scales, some of the scales forming a slight diffused obliquely curved shade from discal fold beyond the cell to below middle of cell; a terminal series of black points from apex to submedian fold. Hind wing creamy white suffused with reddish brown except at base and inner margin; a slight brown terminal line to submedian fold; cilia creamy white. Underside creamy white tinged with red-brown, the fore wing with obscure white discoidal bar.

*Hab.* MADRAS, Belgaum (*Watson*), 1 ♀ type. *Exp.* 44 mm.

(8 a) *Charltona interstitialis*, sp. n.

♀. Head golden yellow, the antennæ black; thorax ochreous white with dorsal black streak and oblique streak across base of patagia; abdomen pale yellow, tinged with brown except at base; legs suffused with blackish. Fore wing ochreous white; a black streak on costa; a black fascia in discal fold from before middle of cell to termen, interrupted by a pale discoidal bar; a black fascia in submedian fold from base to below end of cell; a black fascia on inner margin from before middle to tornus; a subapical black spot on termen; the terminal area with black fasciæ in the interspaces from below vein 7 to above 2, the fascia below vein 5 short and the one below 3 extending to below end of cell; a small black spot at submedian fold on termen. Hind wing yellowish white suffused with reddish brown, the base, inner area, and a streak above median nervure paler; a terminal series of blackish points to submedian fold; cilia pale. Underside yellowish white tinged with reddish brown.

*Hab.* N. NIGERIA, Zungeru (*Macfie*), 1 ♀ type, Ilorin (*Lugard*), 1 ♀. *Exp.* 42 mm.

[To be continued.]

XXII.—*Two new Rodents from Tartagal, Salta, N. Argentina.* By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

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BEFORE obtaining the series from Abrapampa and Casabindo, of which an account is given above, Sr. Budin tried collecting at Tartagal, in the comparatively lowland part of the Province of Salta. Conditions, however, were not very suitable for the work, while a plague of ants rendered trapping almost nugatory. Examples of the following species were however obtained, among them being a new tuco-tuco with the highly exceptional habit of living in thick forest instead of open country:—

1. *Hesperomys venustus*, Thos.

♀. 401. Tartagal, 600 m.  
"Caught in woods."—*E. B.*

2. *Akodon tartareus*, sp. n.

♂. 399.

"Caught in a ravine on river-bank. Toes eaten by ants."—

E. B.

A large vole-mouse of the *varius* group.

Size very large, larger than in any of the genus except the Brazilian *A. arviculoides* and its allies. Fur long, soft, and fine, hairs of back 12–13 mm. in length. General colour above greyish buffy or clay-colour becoming more intense posteriorly, the rump more ochraceous tawny. Under surface slaty washed with pale pinkish cinnamon, not whitish as it is in *varius*. Chin with a white patch, as in other members of this group, but it is not very conspicuous. Hands and feet buffy whitish. Tail long, finely scaled, dark brown above, dull buffy whitish below.

Skull larger than in *A. varius*. Nasals long, much projected behind. Supraorbital edges sharply angular, though not beaded. Interparietal rather broad antero-posteriorly, short transversely. Palatal foramina reaching to the level of the front of the middle lamina of  $m^1$ . Incisive angle  $73^\circ$ .

Dimensions of the type:—

Head and body 134 mm.; tail 94; hind foot 25; ear 19.

Skull: greatest length 31.5 mm.; condylo-incisive length 29.2; zygomatic breadth 16.6; nasals 12; interorbital breadth 5.2; breadth of brain-case 13.5; palatilar length 13.5; palatine foramina 7.2; upper molar series (worn) 4.6.

*Hab.* as above.

*Type.* Adult male. B.M. no. 19. 7. 25. 2. Original number 399. Collected 30th November, 1918.

This fine *Akodon* may be distinguished from *A. varius*, its nearest ally, by its larger size and by the buffy or cinnamon wash on its under surface.

3. *Ctenomys sylvanus*, sp. n.

♂. 395; ♀. 396, 397, 398, 400, 402, 403.

"In sparse colonies in the woods on vegetable soil."—

E. B.

A very dark-coloured species allied to *C. budini*.

General colour above dull bistre-brown, very variable according to the extent to which the slaty bases of the hairs are hidden by their cinnamon-brown subterminal rings. In addition, partly or wholly plumbeous specimens are in the majority; indeed, only one example, no. 397, is wholly free from plumbeism, the type having a median blackish area on the back. Under surface dark slaty washed with brownish

cinnamon. Muzzle darker brown, but not definitely blackened. Area round ears dark slaty. Hands thinly haired, whitish; feet almost naked, the few fine hairs white. Tail practically naked, its minute hairs brownish white.

Skull not distinguishable by any definite character from that of *C. budini*. A separate bone present at the front of the parietal in the only specimen in which this part has not been broken. Interparietal distinct, but small. Palate ending opposite the front edge of  $m^2$ . Bullæ about as in *budini*.

Teeth as in *budini*, though the incisors may be slightly more opisthodont (angle,  $100^\circ$ - $103^\circ$ ).

Dimensions of the type:—

Head and body 200 mm.; tail 73; hind foot 34; ear 8.

Skull: upper median length 44.5 \* mm.; condylo-incisive length 45 \*; gnathion to back of bulla 46.5 \*; zygomatic breadth 27; nasals  $16 \times 8.2$ ; interorbital breadth 10.5; palatilar length 20; upper tooth-series (crowns) 10.3; greatest diameter of  $p^1$  4.2.

*Hab.* as above.

*Type.* Adult female. B.M. no. 19. 7. 25. 4. Original number 396. Collected 20th November, 1918.

The remarkable note made by Sr. Budin on the labels that this species is found in thick forest is confirmed by the following extract from one of his letters (translation):—"In spite of having been ill I have secured some specimens of Tuco-tuco which certainly will interest you very much, and I believe are new. They are in general of a dark plumbeous colour, and the largest measures 200 mm. in length. I have been surprised to find these animals in the thickest woods, as I believed that Tuco-tucos only inhabited open country. They are very rare, besides being exceedingly shy and difficult to trap, and it has given me great trouble to get this small series."

In spite of this great difference in habits, which is as great a surprise to me as it was to Sr. Budin, there is unexpectedly little essential difference between *C. sylvanus* and *C. budini*, the different colour and the more naked feet and tail being practically the only distinguishing points, the skulls being almost precisely similar. But as not one of the seven skulls has escaped damage in the trapping, more perfect skulls may in the future indicate some cranial difference not now perceptible.

\* These measurements were taken before the skull was separated for cleaning, it having been broken in half by the trap.